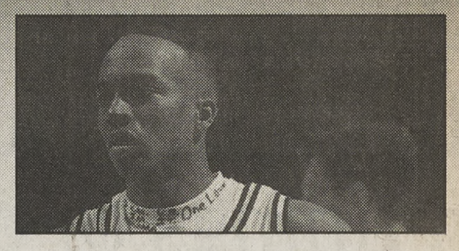
The State Hornet is calling all poets

CENTER STAGE • See page 3



Profile: Fisher hits nothing but net

SPORTS • See page 5



Friday February 20, 1998

STATE HORNET

Volume 50A Celebrating CSUS' 50th Anniversary Number 33

THE DREAM IS ALIVE



Shad Selby/State Hornet

The Rev. Jesse Jackson brought his "Save the Dream" campaign to CSUS Feb. 18. Jackson spoke before a crowd of an estimated 1,100 in the south gymnasium, addressing topics such as social and political change and the repealing of Propositions 209 and 187. Jackson also urged audience members to join him is his "Save the Dream II" march that will take place in Los Angeles Feb. 23. For story, see page 3.

CSU report is a limited edition

Annual book sent to only 3,500 people throughout state, costs CSU $31,820

By JENNIFER COLEMAN
HORNET STAFF WRITER

The latest edition of the California State University system's annual report, revived five years ago by former chancellor Barry Munitz, was released recently to campuses, trustees, legislators and alumni associations to the tune of $31,820.

Similar to a corporation's annual report, the four-color publication and accompanying CD-ROM highlight the accomplishments of the CSU system in the last year.

The theme of this year's report, "Teaching Across the Ages," focuses on the role of CSU as a producer of the state's teachers.

"We get a lot of good feedback," said Ken Swisher, media relations manager for the CSU office of public affairs. "It's a really good source for people. It's a good way to capture a year."

The cost of $9.09 per unit is "pretty good," he said, for a production of only 3,500 copies. That price does not reflect staff hours spent designing the project over the last two months.

"Most private and public institutions do an annual report," Swisher said.

CSUS University Spokeswoman Ann Reed agreed that the report plays an important role in the university system.

"Certainly it is important to the overall stature of the university to have publications such as this. A report like this can be a resource to other education groups and to parents. It is another tool that is useful for people to see what we've accomplished and where we're going," she said.

Parents of CSU students may or may not see the report, she admitted.

With the limited number of copies, and those going to the board of trustees, campuses and legislators, parents may not be able to find them.

"Some of the people who receive it will have it available for larger groups, as we do," Reed said. "It is available in our office for people to see."

The report touches on CSU programs such as Cornerstones, the California Education Technology Initiative, distance education and the new online application system. But in many cases, the recipients of the public relations package already know, or in some cases, helped to plan or implement these programs.

Swisher insisted, however, that the report was not just a form of preaching to the choir.

"Some of the constituencies, like student reporters, aren't necessarily the 'choir.' Others, who have had very positive attitudes, really like the report," he said.

See REPORT, p.10

CSU at a glance

Enrollment
Fall 1996: 336,803
Fall 1995: 325,604
Fall 1994: 319,368

Degrees, 1996-97
52,213 bachelor's degrees
11,841 master's degrees
35 joint doctoral degrees

Student fees
State University fee $1,584

State Budget, 1996-97
$1.936 billion

Faculty
10,625 full time
7,517 part time

Financial Aid
$864 million went to 156,900 students, averaging $5,506 per student

Ethnicity
7.5 % African American
1.2 % American Indian
15.5% Asian
4.7% Filipino
15.5% Mexican American
5.7% Other Latino
.5% Pacific Islander
49.2% White
14% Unknown

Undergrad profile, fall 1996
Commuters 83%
Dependent on parents 53%
Work 73%; over 30 hrs/wk 33%
Average unit load 12.1
Average time to degree:
Freshmen 5.7 years
Transfer 3.7 years
Student/faculty ratio 19:1
Mean parental income $51,670
Male 45%; female 55%
Average age 26.2

Source: California State University Annual Report, 1997 "Teaching Across the Ages"

Greek affairs releases grade averages

Sororities top frats in grade average, but both lower than undergrad student averages

By SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ
HORNET STAFF WRITER

This may turn into a war of the sexes.

Sorority members are making better grades than their fraternity counterparts, according to a recent grade report compiled by Greek affairs.

In the Greek grade report, which is produced every semester, eight sororities and 12 fraternities were evaluated for their average GPAs. Sororities came out with an overall GPA of 2.58, while fraternities came out with an overall GPA of 2.11.

Both of these were below the CSUS overall undergraduate GPA of 2.663, but there were three Greek organizations that beat the CSUS average: Delta Gamma, a sorority, with a 2.7; Sigma Phi Epsilon, a fraternity, with a 2.705; and Alpha Chi Omega, a sorority, had a 2.67.

Spring Greek Grades

• All NIC Fraternity GPA	2.120
• All Undergrad Men's GPA	2.550
• All Panhellenic Sorority GPA	2.473
• All Undergrad Women's GPA	2.787

Averages compiled by Greek Affairs

"As far as the higher GPAs for sororities, I think there are more rewards for girls and academic scholarships are given more often in sororities," said Michelle Smith, president of the Panhellenic Council and a member of Alpha Chi Omega.

She pointed out that the Panhellenic Council requires a minimum 2.0 GPA and weekly study groups for members in all sororities.

Chi Delta, a sorority that raised its GPA from a 2.528 in the spring 1997 semester to a 2.608 in the

See GPA, p.10

Sigma Phi Epsilon goes number one in Greek grades

By SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ
HORNET STAFF WRITER

Almost two years ago, Sigma Phi Epsilon was close to falling below a 2.0 GPA. But now, with a 2.705 GPA for the fall 1997 semester, the CSUS fraternity is ranked No. 1 among 12 fraternities, according to a recent Greek grade report.

The report is produced each semester by Scott Siegel, Greek Affairs program adviser, with the assistance of the Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council and the office of Admissions and Records. It lists and compares the average GPAs for 20 CSUS sororities and fraternities.

With the goal of stressing academic excellence above all else, Sigma Phi Epsilon conducted a major cleansing during the spring 1997 semester

See GREEKS, p.10

Perimeter road project's 'safety' issue questioned

By MELISSA JONES
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The ongoing war over CSUS' perimeter road continues as each side debates the university's spending approximately $7.6 million on the road-safety project.

According to biology professor Robert Metcalf the Perimeter Road Safety Improvements Project is as much a safety hazard as it is a safety solution.

The pedestrian path between the Union and the old engineering building is a prime spot for potential accidents, Metcalf said. He said he has witnessed delivery trucks driving dangerously close to pedestrians.

"You talk about safety," Metcalf said. "You're co-mingling vehicles and pedestrians."

Metcalf disagrees with perimeter road proponents, who say safety concerns were the driving force behind the project's approval.

"They say it's about safety. Of course that's bogus," he said. "They did not even collect the safety data until August of 1996."

Public Safety Investigator John Hamrick confirmed that CSUS Facilities Management did not request safety information from the Office of Public Safety until 1996.

It was only in retrospect that administrators started to "wring their hands" over safety issues, Metcalf said.

Howard Harris, associate vice president for facilities management, defended the road's safety designation. He cited a video made in 1987 that, according to Harris, demonstrates through accident scenarios — as well as examples of traffic and congestion — the project is safety related. There are no accident statistics, however, in the video.

According to Scott Plotkin, the chief consultant to the Senate Education Committee, the choice of project was simply a matter of timing.

"The perimeter road is one of the projects that made it to the top of the

See ROAD, p.10

• Inside •

Opinion: "How would you spend $20,000?" page 7
Comics: page 8
Classified: page 9
Police Log: page 2

Illegal flier postings result in finings of up to $100

By SYLVIA RODRIGUEZ
HORNET STAFF WRITER

Illegal publicity and postings are rampant at the beginning of every semester as clubs and organizations advertise themselves and their upcoming events.

Colorful posters and fliers line the campus and are posted on walls, newspaper stands, kiosks, trees, bathroom stalls, light posts and windows. Many of these seemingly harmless postings could end up costing the organizations up to $100 in fines.

"Some of the fliers destroy university property, like when fliers are stapled into plaster wails," said Scott Siegel, program adviser for Greek affairs. "The university views this destruction as vandalism."

According to Lou Camera, director of student activities, about 12 groups have been reprimanded for illegal postings this semester. The university is fining the organizations to pay for the removal of the postings and to repair damages.

"We have been approaching those who have been stapling fliers to classroom walls and the trellises outside the Library," said Camera.

Camera uses the newly remodeled Lassen Hall as a prime example of the damage illegal postings can cause.

> "Some of the fliers destroy university property. The university views this destruction as vandalism."
>
> –Scott Siegel
> Program Advisor for Greek Affairs

"One group came in and stapled to the walls, destroying the plaster," said Camera. "There are costs involved in removing these postings and the university has to bear that cost."

According to Siegel, an organization's first illegal posting leads to a meeting with a program adviser, a warning from the university, and a mandatory review of posting policies. A second offense leads to a one-month loss of posting privileges for the offending organization, and the third offense is cause for revoking posting privileges for a whole semester.

Despite CSUS' brochure, "Publicity and Posting Policy," which is available in the student activities office, many organization leaders are unaware of the university's regulations.

International Business Organization is one of the campus clubs that has fliers illegally posted on windows and newspaper stands.

"I don't know the policies, but the university probably has them posted somewhere," said Amanda Reeve, 21, president of the International Business Organization. "I assumed everyone in IBO posted where they're supposed to. I always post on the kiosks."

Reeve, who was unaware of her organization's illegal postings, said she will review and announce campus regulations to other organization members. But she is also frustrated with the limited space of the kiosks for posting fliers.

"When we post on the kiosk they're up for one day and then they always get taken down," Reeve said. "Sometimes groups will take up too much space. At the beginning of the semester, one fraternity took up an entire side of a kiosk."

According to CSUS regulations, only two posters or fliers per organization may be posted on a kiosk or board. Other rules prohibit posting anything on glass entryways, bus shelters, windows, interior walls, light posts, trees, doors, building exteriors, automobiles, department bulletin boards and the railings of the Library ramp.



The following is a list of excerpts taken from the campus police log.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

BURGLARY: A Hewlett Packard calculator, wallet, checkbook and cash were taken in the men's locker room in the Physical Education building.

AUTO BURGLARY: A ski jacket and outfit valued at $300 were taken from a 1992 white Mustang parked in the Residential Hall parking lot east of Jenkins Hall.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT: Two cars were involved in an accident on University Drive at College Town Drive, when one of the cars failed to yield to the car already in the intersection. No one was injured.

THREAT TO LIFE/PROPERTY: A Nissan, Chevy, Hyundai and Dodge were damaged when a tree in Lot 1 fell north of the Student Health Center.

CITIZEN'S ASSIST: A yellow Mazda got stuck up on the curb next to Information Booth 1 near the main entrance.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

There were two incidents involving keys locked inside vehicles.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE: Three men were reported lighting firecrackers behind Sierra Hall. They were last seen fleeing in the direction of Sutter Hall.

BURGLARY: Staff from the Hornet newspaper reported hearing a suspicious noise from the back office. When the area was checked there was a CPU missing.

CITIZEN'S ASSIST: A woman in the Social Science building was taken to the Student Health Center after hurting her ankle.

AUTO BURGLARY: A car's right side window was pried open in the Public Safety lot. A parking decal and umbrella were missing.

PETTY THEFT: A backpack was taken from the Hornet Bookstore, containing a jacket, two computer science textbooks, and a Texas Instruments Calculator. The value was estimated at $380.

AUTO BURGLARY: A car window was smashed in the residential parking lot near Sierra Hall. Two Sony speakers were taken.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

DISTURBING THE PEACE: Several students were milling around the dorm area causing a disturbance and making noise. They were advised to keep it down.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE: Two men were casing the area around the residential parking lot and dorms. They were last seen darting behind the Dining Commons and were unable to be located.

AUTO BURGLARY: A North Face ski jacket valued at $180 was taken from a Chevy pick-up when the cab window was knocked out in the residence hall parking lot.

GRAND THEFT: A purse was taken from the Speech/Drama building. There was a power outage. The woman left her purse on a chair in order to help, and when she returned, her purse containing a cell phone, driver's license, calculator, checks, and cash was gone.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

No reportable activity.

MONDAY, FEB. 9

There were two incidents involving keys locked inside vehicles.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT: A white Toyota Camry and red Acura Integra were involved in a minor fender-bender on the sixth floor of the parking structure. There were no injuries reported and the two parties exchanged insurance information.

DISTURBING THE PEACE: Four or five rollerbladers were reported causing a disturbance in the Quad area in front of the library.

WELFARE CHECK: A woman was taken to Sutter General Hospital after having a seizure in the Math/History building.

HIT/RUN: A 1993 green Ford Thunderbird was hit in the public safety parking lot. Damage was reported to the rear driver's side.

SECURITY CHECK: A person in Temporary Building FF near Lot 4 called to report banging noises and shouting people outside. The area was checked and found to be secure.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

There were four incidents involving keys locked inside vehicles.

VEHICLE THEFT: A blue 1996 Toyota Celica was stolen from the residence parking lot. The CHP recovered the car later in the day. It was slightly stripped.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE: A man was acting suspiciously and looking into Hondas in Lot 8.

BURGLARY: Clothes and a pager valued at $89 were taken when a locker was pried open in the Physical Education building.

STALLED VEHICLE: A car blocking traffic was pushed out of the roadway.

Correction

Changes to the Associated Students Inc. Operating Rules are approved by the Board of Directors. They are not placed on the spring ballot.

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http://www.csus.edu/hornet

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Engineering related questions:

Bently Nevada Corporation
Teri Ansberry
Engineering Department
Email: teri.ansberry@bently.com

Information Session:
California State University - Sacramento
Monday, 23 February, 1998
5:00 - 6:00 PM

On-Campus Interviews:
California State University - Sacramento
Tuesday, 24 February, 1998
8:00 - 5:00 PM

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Center Stage

Jesse Jackson urges CSUS students to 'Save the Dream'

Civil rights political activist encourages citizens to actively participate in fighting injustice and ignorance

By LAURIE SPENCER
HORNET COPY EDITOR

The Rev. Jesse Jackson registered 22 new voters during his stop at CSUS while on his national campaign to "Save the Dream."

"If you do not do your best to make society better, then you lose the moral authority to criticize," said Jackson during his speech Wednesday in the South Gym.

"Save The Dream" is a national campaign organized for social and political change in the United States. Jackson focuses on four different propositions in his effort to "Save The Dream."

Proposition 187 limits social services provided for illegal immigrants; Proposition 209 ended Affirmative Action; Proposition 226 requires employers and labor organizations to get permission from employees before withholding pay or using dues and fees for political contributions; and Proposition 227 would require all public school instruction to be conducted in English.

While Jackson supports Proposition 226, he urges resistance to the other propositions because they divide, exclude and weaken the people.

"Inclusion leads to healing, growth and expansion of opportunity," he said.

According to Jackson, "only 35 percent of the work force is filled with white men, the rest is composed of women and other cultural groups considered to be minorities. That makes this a majority issue, not a minority issue."

Jackson made a comparison between society and the Super Bowl. He said, "The difference is that in the Super Bowl, the playing field is even and the rules are public."

Jackson says that he hopes the "Save the Dream" campaign will help to even the playing field.

"It was pure luck that we were able to get Rev. Jackson during African American History Month," said Kecia Aldridge-Hall. Aldridge-Hall, who is the Program Coordinator of Cooper Woodson College, was the woman responsible for organizing Jackson's visit to CSUS.

"African American History Month is necessary because it is a chapter, (like that of many other minorities) which was left out of the history of the Western Civilization," said Jackson.

He also noted that it is not the job qualifications that have changed throughout history, but the laws governing who can perform those duties. Although the 1964 accommodations bill allowed for equal services, it still left a large trade gap, he said.

Included in his discussion of the trade gap, Jackson talked about the "Great American Giveaway" known as the Homestead Act where land was given away in a lottery.

"The problem," he contends, "was that the land was given to white male citizens only, and this excluded a tremendous amount of people from the great tent of equality."

Jackson described the ideal of this great tent as "many faces, many races, and many ideas from many places."



Shad Selby/State Hornet

For African American History Month, Jesse Jackson spoke at the south gym on Wednesday. The event was sponsored by the Cooper Woodson College Program.

This ideal tent would also include equal protection under laws, equal opportunity, equal access, and fare shares for everyone and can be achieved with the right support.

Jackson had the support of the crowd, receiving three standing ovations during the course of his presentation. Cooper Woodson College sponsored the event, and "only received confirmation of Jackson's appearance on the previous Friday" according to David Coven, Director of the Pan-African Studies Program.

"Although we only got 1,100 of the 2,000 anticipated audience members, this was a nice turn-out considering that fact," said one CWC staff member.

Jackson urged the crowd to join him for "Save the Dream III" in Los Angeles to help ensure job security and educational opportunity. This is the third march in a series that includes one to be held in Washington, D.C.

"Save the Dream III" will begin on the morning of Feb. 23 at the L.A. Coliseum and end at the Ronald Regan building in downtown Los Angeles.

Catholic priest speaks out and informs

By LAURIE SPENCER
HORNET COPY EDITOR

Loren Riebe, a Catholic priest and civil rights activist, spoke to increase awareness about the indigenous people of Chiapas, Mexico, who he says are struggling against all odds toward a more democratic society.

Riebe, who spoke on Wednesday afternoon in Mendocino Hall, was expelled from Mexico for having what he calls "political agendas not covered under my visa."

Riebe, who denies any involvement in the Chiapas uprising, claims he did nothing more than share "liberation theology."

Riebe said his expulsion occurred because "the church, acting as a mediator of peace, got in the way of certain political agendas.

"The biggest problem is Chiapas is not a religious war, as is depicted by government-filtered media, but a political and military tactic to divide and conquer," he said.

Riebe claims the government and military are "basically controlled by 18 wealthy landowners." He said this "futile government" takes advantage of the indigenous people because it concentrates wealth and education among a very limited group.

> "The church, acting as a mediator of peace, got in the way of certain political agendas."
>
> — Loren Riebe

According to Reibe, major injustices against the country's people include men being paid less than $2 per day's work, and that only 20 percent of the indigenous people will be educated past the fourth grade. He added that, although there was a measles epidemic, vaccinations intended for the people of Chiapas were sold to the highest bidders, resulting in the death of at least 75 babies over a two-week period.

According to Riebe, it was disregard for the indigenous people that lead to the Chiapas uprising on Jan. 1, 1994.

The revolt was lead by a militant group of people known as "Zapatistas," who chose the first of January because it was the date scheduled for the implementation of the .North American Free Trade Agreement. The Zapatistas saw this agreement as detrimental to the poor and indigenous people of the area.

Riebe has filed a civil suit against the country of Mexico for invading his rights, although his action could prevent him from returning to Chiapas to work with the people he has grown to love.

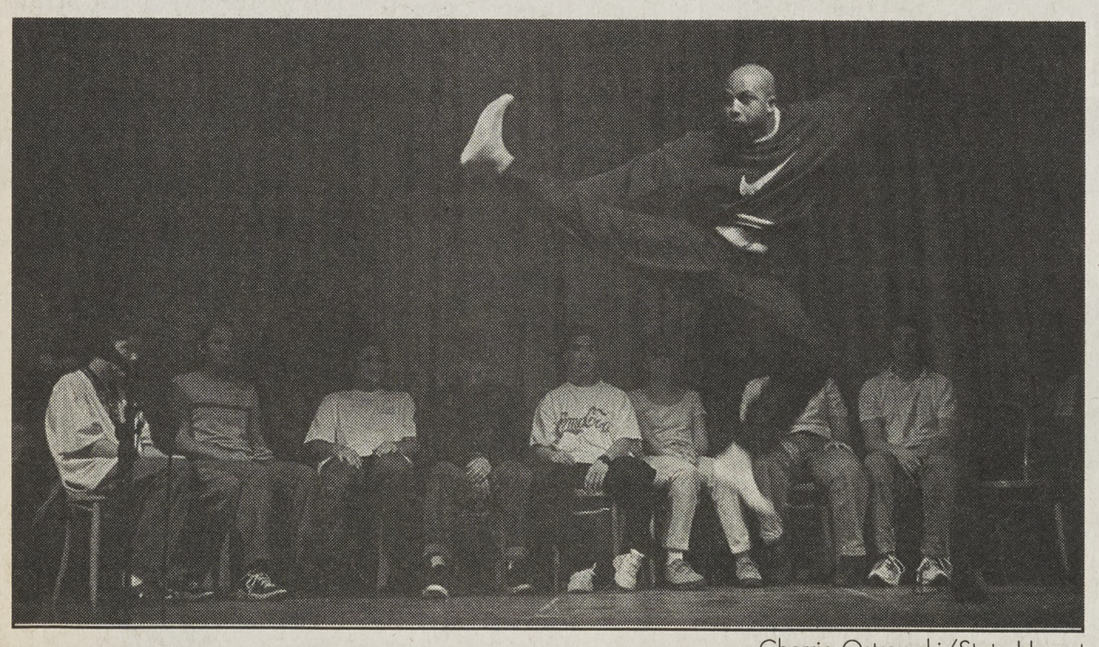
He hopes the suit will help focus attention on the Chiapans' plight, forcing the government to make peace.

A hearing regarding the case is scheduled to take place on Feb. 24 in Washington.

On the local level, Riebe urges students to take action by praying and helping to inform people about the real situation in Chiapas.

More information can be obtained by contacting the Zapatista Solidarity Coalition by e-mail (zsc@midtown.net) or telephone at (916) 457-5018.

Look into my eyes



Cherrie Ostrowski/State Hornet

Tom DeLuca's sidekick returned to CSUS to amaze students in the Redwood Room on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12.

Does the

thought of

having your

poetry

published

excite you?

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drop by the

State Hornet

and

leave a

piece

of

poetry

in

Josh Diehl's

mail box.

Poet's Corner

A Picture

I silently gaze at a
Photograph
a photograph I hold with importance
So young
So unsuspecting

Brown hair and a smile that's yours
Alone
So innocent
So carefree

A part of me has surfaced
Put through a straining trial
I put myself through it
I look at you now so
Worried
I have one question:
WHY?
WHY YOU?
WHY ANYONE?
So vibrant
So joyful

If I could, I'd keep
That Picture
And absorb your
Sunshine

— Eric Marks 4/17/94

Calendar of Events

20
•"African Americans in Business: The Path to Empowerment," 10 a.m., UU-Redwood Room

21
•"The Soulful Sounds of the '50's, 60's and '70's," 8 p.m., South Gym

22
•National Engineers Week - Feb 22-28

•Chicano/Latino Graduation Committee: General Body Meeting, 7 p.m., Science Building Room 452

•"Local Licks," featuring the brody's, 9:30 p.m., KRXQ FM

23
•"Illusions of Civil Rights Remedies Today," noon, UU-Board Chambers

•"The Best Kept Secret in America: The Genius of the African American Inventor," 11 a.m., UU-Redwood Room

•"Pan African Student Alliance," social/ organizational townhall meeting, noon, Lassen Hall 1102

25
•"The Moe Better Man" show, featuring the brody's, 7 p.m., Old Ironsides

•Traditional & Contemporary Japanese Music, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

•"Gossip; Everyone Does It!... But Why?" 1 p.m., UU-Board Chambers

•"Blues Spin" Dale Scholl Dance/Art, 8 p.m., Solano Hall 1010

•"Race Relations at Sac State: Beyond Affirmative Action," 2-4 p.m., SLN 2002

•"Addict Merchants" Hip Hop/Jazz, noon, UU-Redwood ROOM

26
•"The Fourth Annual California Journalism Awards Conference," Christopher Hitchens, 2p.m.-9p.m., Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn

•Gospel Artists Harold Pauley and the Unlimited Praise Choir, 11:45 a.m., UU-Redwood Room

27
•CD RELEASE SHOW AT THE CREST THEATER, featuring the brody's 7 p.m., Crest Theater

•"The Disappearance of the Black Race in the U.S.," noon, UU-Board Chambers

Find the State Hornet online at:

http://www.csus.edu/hornet

CD SHOWCASE



Daddy of Them All
Space Monkeys

By ERIN WATT
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The Space Monkeys have comeback from another orbital journey to the great beyond, bringing their lastest C.D," Daddy of Them All.."

" Let it Shine," along with the Space Monkey's claim to fame, " Sugar Cane," give " Daddy" a cosmic boost.. After listening to "Sugar Cane," I seriously doubt the group is singing about C&H sugar cane.

A personal favorite off this album is " Inside my Soul.." Although the first impression of this song was reminiscent of the sounds of Oasis, it was deep nonetheless.

Lead vocalist Richard McNevin-Duff gives the albumthe groovy, psychedelic appeal of the 70s, yet updates the album with his temperamental lyrics.

The overall mood of " Daddy," is that of pure hostility towards humanity and the tripped-out rambllings of a questioned substance.

Out of a possible five stars, "Daddy of Them All," recieves a three.



Shaken and Stirred . . .
Various Artists

By JOSH DIEHL
FEATURES EDITOR

"Shaken and Stirred . . ." is neither very creative nor especially compelling. A collection of re-mixed remakes of classic James Bond opening themes, this album should not disappoint fans of mere background music. But anyone looking for a hook or a musical idea to latch onto should steer clear of this mushy mess.

While Pretenders vocalist Chrissie Hynde injects some soul and emotion into her rendition of "Live and Let Die," the vast majority of the album tracks sound as if they were engineered in a pristine lab, created by some nameless, faceless DJ.

The Propellerheads' take on "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" is the one unexpected surprise on the album. It appears that the Propellerheads are the only group of musicians on this album to understand the importance of dynamics.

Out of a possible five stars, "Shaken and Stirred . . ." receives one.

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Prizes donated by/for more info: www.k2snowboards.com, www.vansshoes.com. A portion of the proceeds from this Cd are donated to AmFar, the nation's leading non-profit organization dedicated to the support of AIDS research.

Mammoth Records: 1988-1998 A Sound Decade
Visit the Mammoth website at: www.mammoth.com

GET LUCKY



Photo courtesy of Luckie Strike

Luckie Strike (from left, band members Dre, Bubba, Melanie and Liz) headlines Friday night's show at Bojangles with the Lesdystics and Punch the Clown. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and admission is $6.

1/2 OFF



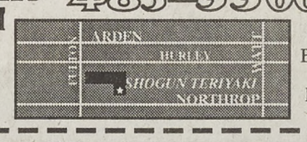
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What's the Buzz?

The answer to the following question appears in the Feb. 17 issue of the State Hornet:

"What was the losing score of the Saturday game against Idaho State?"



The first person to respond correctly will receive one complimentary movie pass. Those who actually bring in a photo of the last "fool" he/she kissed will receive a movie pass, poster, t-shirt and cap. (Limited to first 10 people)

"What's the Buzz?" appears in every issue of the State Hornet. Faculty, Staff, State Hornet employees and repeat winners (within 30 days) are not eligible.

SPORTS

Future of Hornet hoops is looking up

Fisher gives CSUS plenty of firepower

By DEVIN BLANKENSHIP
HORNET STAFF WRITER

In a 1-21 men's basketball season full of doom and gloom, some bright spots have surfaced from the shadows of Memorial Auditorium, helping Hornet fans feel optimistic about the future.

The play of junior forward Sean Houston, emerging as a possible star, is impressive, as is the continued improvement of freshman point guard Ryan Coleman. What might be the best story of the 1997-98 season for Sacramento State is the rise of relatively obscure guard Sedessa Fisher.

A junior from Quincy, Fla., Fisher leads the Hornets in scoring this season (not counting Houston's 10 games) at more than 14 points a game. He has scored 30 or more points three times this season.

He also leads the team in points in eight of 21 games he has played, despite the fact that he only averages around 23 minutes a night and shoots only 28 percent from three-point land.

Quite simply, the man can score.

It doesn't matter if he's inside or out, driving the lane, or hoisting a three-pointer — Fisher has a nose for the hoop. Like all good scorers, his Jiminy Cricket-like conscience is neatly tucked away in his locker before each game. This enables him to come out firing, hit or miss.

"Sedessa is a guy who gives us instant offense," said head coach Tom Abatemarco. "When the game is up and down the court, he's tremendous. We really like to use him when we need a score."

A transfer from Lassen Junior College in Susanville, Calif., Fisher was not heavily recruited out of high school in Florida. Undersized and overlooked, he looked to his cousin, who at the time played for Cal State Bakersfield, for help.

"I was only 5-8 and 140 pounds when I graduated," said Fisher.

"Nobody was really looking at me because I was so small. But my cousin talked to his coach, who contacted some different West coast junior colleges, and I ended up coming to Lassen."

His decision to go to Lassen ended up being a solid one. By the time his two years had ended, Fisher had grown into his current frame at 6 feet tall, 175 pounds and he had flourished on the court.

He led his squad to a two-year record of 43-18, averaging 20.3 points, 7.3 assists and two steals a game his sophomore year. Fisher was named team MVP that year and also made the California Community College men's basketball first team.

Still, Fisher was left in the dark by most Division I schools and his decision to come to Sac State was last-second.

"I didn't really think about coming here. It just happened in two days. He (assistant coach Grady Bean) called and he wanted to sign me, so I had to make a decision. I originally thought about going somewhere down south, like Cal State Fullerton, or even somewhere back east."

So far, things have worked out for Fisher — despite the Hornets' dismal record. At times this season he has been the team's only offensive weapon, forced to try and take over a game when there is no other option.

A self-described "tweener," Fisher is not really a point guard but not really a big guard either. At his current size, he has the body of a person running the point combined with the mind of a shooter, which can sometimes lead to trouble.

"Sedessa has a problem when the game settles into a half court flow. When games are slowed down, he has a tough time because he doesn't always get good looks," said Abatemarco.

Fisher admits to having trouble when the game isn't back-and-forth. The games in which he has exploded for over 30 points have been hectic, fast-breaking affairs.

"It's hard for me to adjust to Coach's style of play with the set offense. At Lassen we just ran and pressed each game. Here, I end up taking myself out of the game sometimes and Coach has to get on me."

While life on the court has improved for the man they call "Pooky," a nickname Fisher has had since he was a young child, playing 3,000 miles from home is very tough. From time to time, he admits to getting homesick.

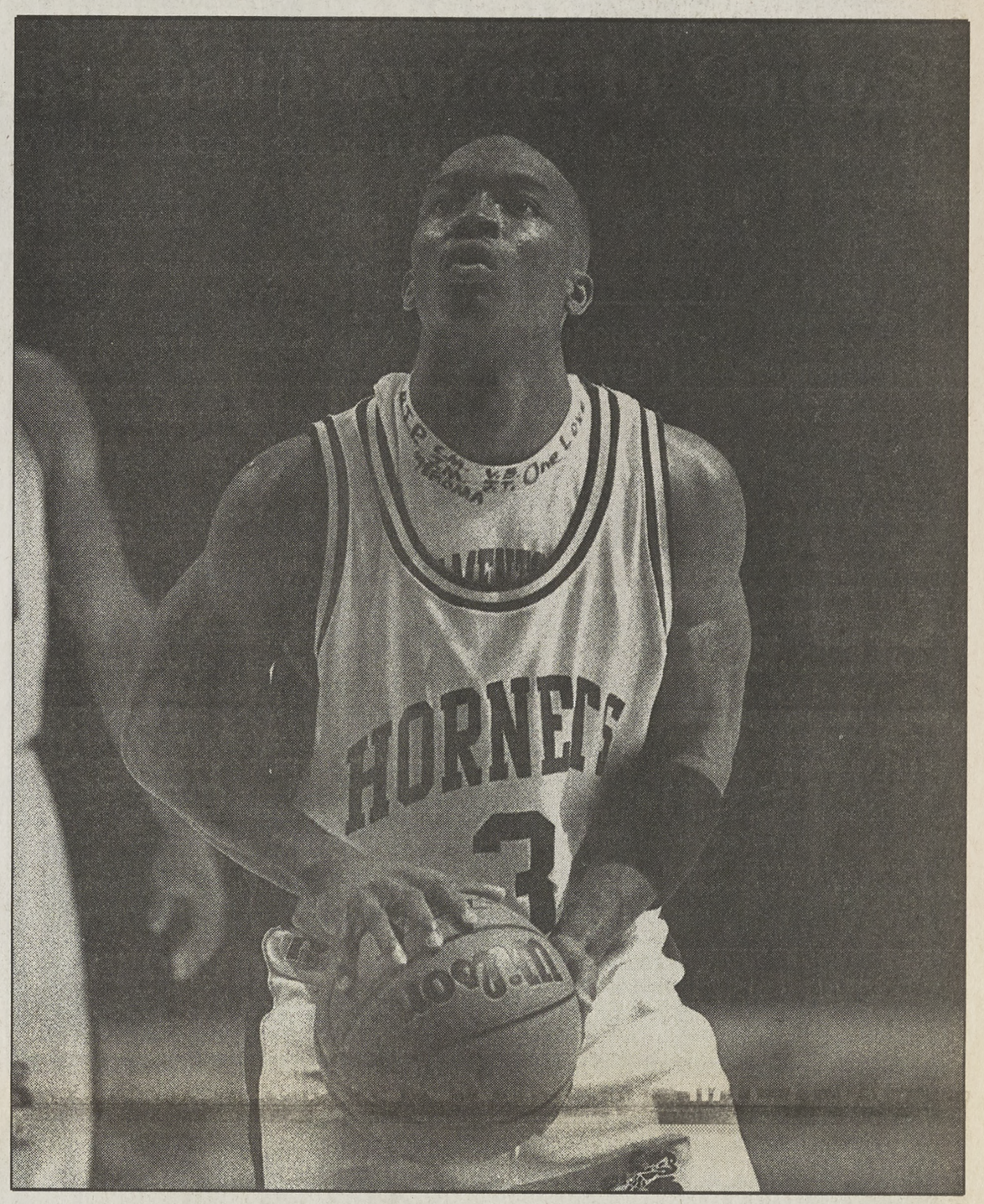
"It's hard playing so far away," said Fisher, who plays each game for his family. He writes the initials of those that have died and those who are still close to him on the collar of his shirt under his game jersey.

"A week and a half ago my aunt passed away but I couldn't go home.

"It's been really frustrating all through college also because my parents never get to see me play. But I'm just trying to stay positive and work hard. That's just life."

As far as the rest of the season and next year goes, Fisher has high hopes for the team, his best friend and roommate Houston, and himself.

"I just want us to finish out on a strong note, because even though we're not winning, we are playing hard. With me and Sean and some of the guys that are coming in next year plus some of our returning players, we'll be pretty good."



Paul Higley/State Hornet

Shooting guard Sedessa Fisher, a junior transfer from Lassen College, has made an immediate impact with the men's basketball team in his first season. Fisher leads the Hornets in scoring, averaging 14.5 points per game.



Dominick Porras/State Hornet

Sacramento State men's tennis player Rob Harris winds up for a big serve Tuesday against Santa Clara. Harris fell to Ryan Pang 6-1, 6-4 in the No. 6 singles match as the Hornets suffered their first loss.

Broncos buck men's tennis

Winning streak ends; Boyls and Nelson-Kortland still undefeated

By HORNET STAFF

The Sacramento State men's tennis team was handed its first loss of the season Tuesday at home, falling 5-2 to the Broncos of Santa Clara University.

Santa Clara pulled out two tough victories in singles play and swept the Hornets (2-1) in doubles to escape with the win.

Hornets coach Chris Evers said injuries to Vazghen Zaghiyan and Bart Prytula hurt his squad.

"They're a good team, but with a full team I think we can beat them," Evers said. "We haven't played as a full team yet this year."

Jason Weiss and Todd Benson both lost three-set matches for the Hornets. Weiss fell 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 to Lars Nelson in No. 1 singles, and Benson was defeated by Matt Cox 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 in No. 3 singles.

Both Weiss and Benson were tied with their opponents 3-3 in the third set but faltered down the stretch.

"We lost two three-setters that could have gone either way," Evers said. "A couple of crucial volleys, a shot here, a shot there and we could have turned it around."

Jordan Boyls and Erik Nelson-Kortland were victorious for the Hornets, as Boyls downed Jeremy Testwuide 6-2, 7-5 in the No. 2 singles match and Nelson-Kortland routed Marcell Hlousek 6-2, 6-4 in No. 3 singles. After four matches Boyls and Nelson-Kortland are the only Hornets to remain unbeaten.

Baseball blown out by Chico St.

Wildcats take advantage of injured pitcher, score four runs in fifth

By MARK AVILA
HORNET STAFF WRITER

Sacramento State's baseball team recorded its first complete home game of the season against Chico State Wednesday afternoon. The rain let up, but the Wildcats showed no mercy, pounding the Hornets 11-6.

Disaster struck the Hornets in the fifth inning, when starting pitcher Mark Rodriguez went out with an injury.

"Rodriguez pulled a hamstring in the fourth and wasn't able to finish the next inning," head coach John Smith said.

"Our pitchers just haven't been on the field enough because of the rain."

There was a 20-minute delay in the game while Ben Roussey warmed up to replace Rodriguez.

The Wildcats took advantage of Roussey's cold arm and connected for five consecutive hits, including back-to-back home runs delivered by first baseman Canaan Price and teammate Mike Hartman. Price went 5 for 5 at the plate, including two doubles and a homer.

Chico State scored four runs in the top of the fifth to lead 7-3.

The Hornets were unable to stop the bleeding, as Chico scored four more times, in the seventh and eighth.

The Hornets were in contention through the first four innings.

In the second, shortstop Brian Gillman doubled to score Jason Bolton. First baseman Ryan Hodgson knocked a two-bagger of his own, scoring Bolton from first.

In the bottom half of the third, designated hitter Josh Payne belted a solo homer to lock the game at three runs apiece.

However, that's all the damage Sac State could muster until the ninth, when the Hornets scored three. But it was too little too late.

The Hornets came close to scoring more runs, but left nine men stranded on base.

> "Our pitchers just haven't been on the field enough because of the rain."
>
> - Hornet baseball coach John Smith

"We've been hitting the ball pretty well," said coach Smith. "But we need to hit more in clutch situations."

Sacramento is looking to put this game behind it and get ready for Big West Conference play, which starts in three weeks.

It's been difficult for the team to practice on the field because of the wet weather. Coach Smith is conducting game simulations in the gym, trying to keep his players in shape and injury-free.

"For us we're looking at the big picture which is to start the conference," Smith said. "We just need to deal with it (the weather) and get these guys ready."

The Hornets are scheduled to visit San Jose State for two games on Friday and Saturday, with a third game to be played at Hornet field Sunday at 1 p.m.

Spartans hold off Hornets

By HORNET STAFF

SAN JOSE — The Sacramento State gymnastics came close to landing its first victory of the year, but was forced to settle for a tie with San Jose State last Friday.

Despite placing eight of the top 12 gymnasts in the four events, the Hornets (0-7-1) finished tied at 180.525 points with the Spartans.

Jolane Parr won the balance beam event with a score of 9.400 and Natalie Cadondon led a sweep on the uneven bars with a 9.325 for the Hornets. Kim Mattis took second all-around with 35.875 and Nicole Denis finished third with 35.657

Andi Arnold added a second on the floor exercise and Annie Snellgrove and Mandy Johnson each contributed third-place finishes for the Hornets, who will host Seattle Pacific this Friday at 7:30 p.m.

HORNETS FALL TO AGGIES — at Davis: Jennifer Fong led UC Davis past the Hornets 188.750-183.850.

Finley named most valuable

The Sacramento State men's soccer team named senior midfielder Don Finley Most Valuable Player in the second annual postseason awards banquet Tuesday.

Freshman midfielder Matt Scammacca was named Rookie of the Year and Darren Edge was the team's defensive MVP.

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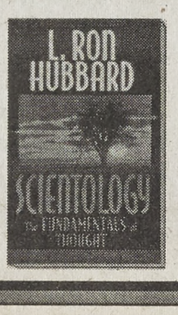
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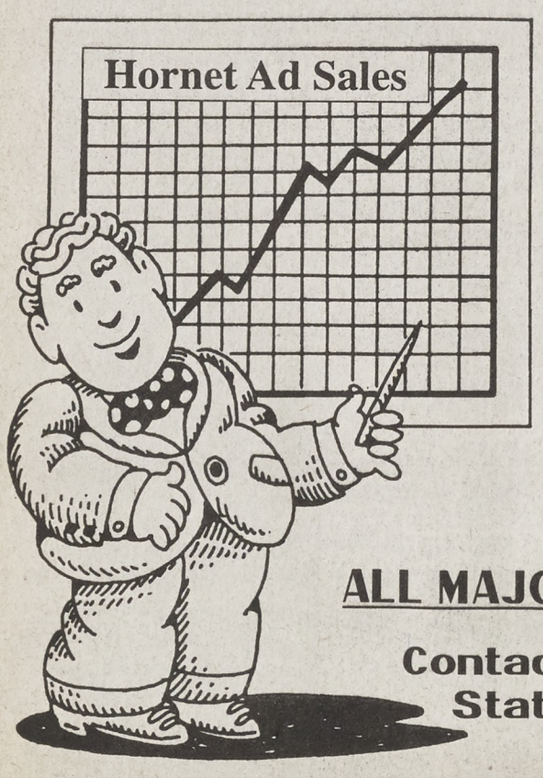
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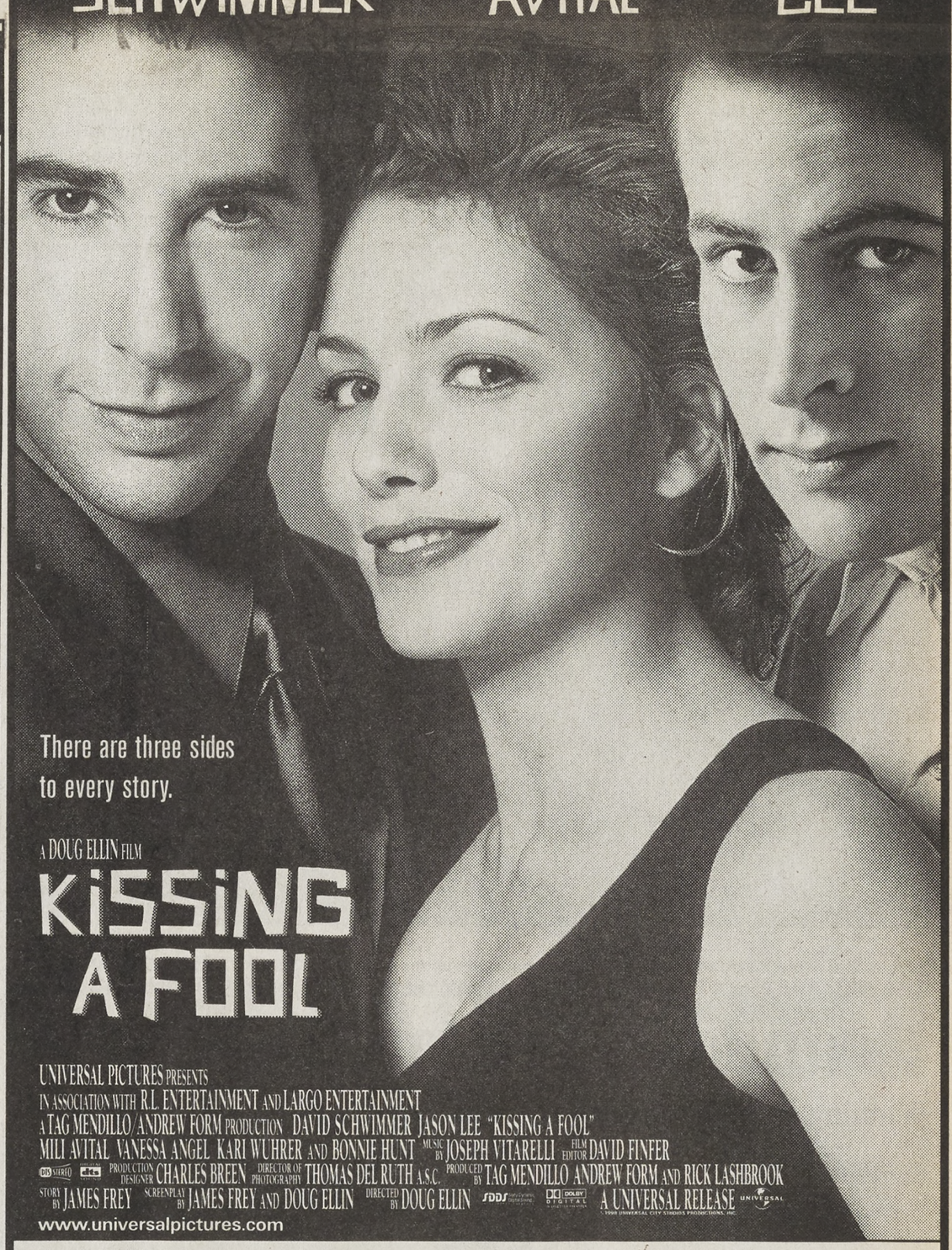
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The State Hornet invites you and a guest to a special advance screening of KISSING A FOOL. Stop by the State Hornet in T-GG , submit your answer to this weeks "What's the Buzz" question, and receive a pass for the February 24th screening.
Also, be one of the first ten students to bring a picture of a *fool* that *you* have kissed to receive a KISSING A FOOL prize package!!
(Prizes are first come, first served. While supplies last. This film is rated R.)

KISSING A FOOL Opens Friday, February 27th.

OPINION

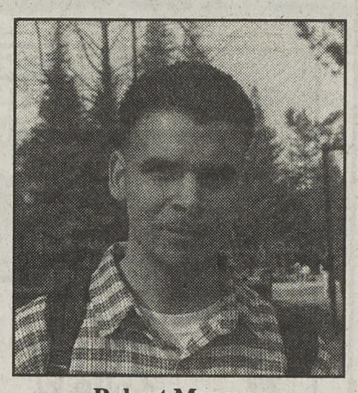
Campus Quotes

How would you spend $20,000 to improve the CSU system?



Meredith Anderson
French, Senior

"I would spend it on improving traffic conditions and increasing public transportation, maybe even purchase more shuttles."



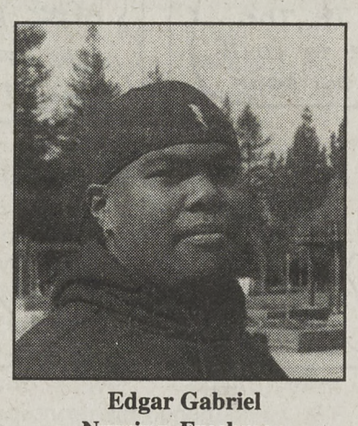
Robert Mayorga
Business, Freshman

"Spend the $20,000 on making parking easier and less costly. Make parking more accessible to major parts of campus that are not so far away."



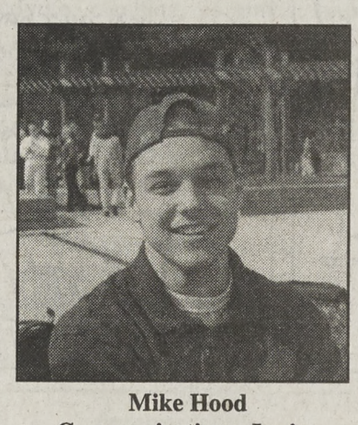
James Ward
Science, Senior

"Spend it on purchasing additional and more efficient printers and copiers in the reserve book room."



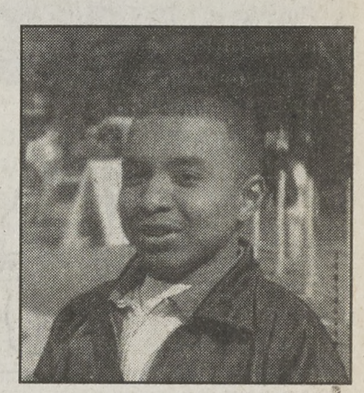
Edgar Gabriel
Nursing, Freshman

"Spend the $20,000 on increasing classrooms and the choice of classes. Also, more professors are needed so people can take the classes they want so they can graduate on time."



Mike Hood
Communications, Junior

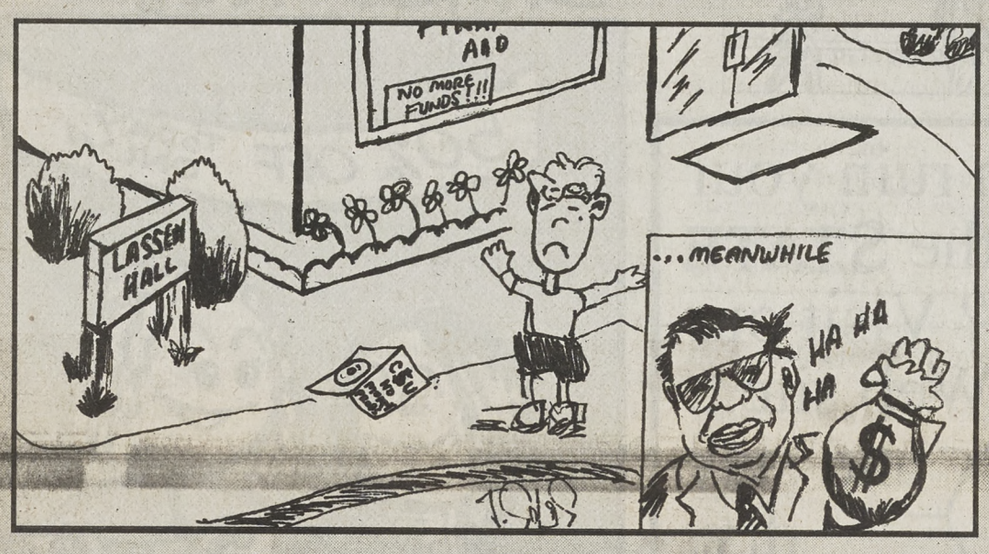
"Spend the money on additional and more efficent computers. We need better and quicker access to the Internet. Buy some Pentium II computers."



Sean Malone
Comp. Science, Junior

"Spend the $20,000 on building a new Delta Chi fraternity house. Build it near where the baseball field is located."

EDITORIAL



Spend money on students, not PR

Joe is in his third year at CSUS. He has managed to post a 3.35 GPA and is right on track to graduate next year. One might call Joe a model student.

The problem for Joe is that he is missing college.

When Joe began his time at CSUS he decided not to take out loans on the assumption he most likely would not make more than $25,000 his first year after graduation. He reasoned with rent, a car payment, and other living costs, if loan payments could be avoided, they should be.

Joe also gets no help from his parents, who love him, but have debts of their own to address.

So, Joe works 30 to 40 hours a week to make monthly ends meet while putting a little away for the next semester's books and tuition.

As a result, Joe rarely sees Sacramento's night life. The last time the ski club took a trip, Joe stayed home.

But he continues to grit his teeth and keep his grades up.

The same day Joe was missing out on the ski club's adventure, the chancellor's office, way down in Long Beach, was putting the finishing touches on the fifth edition of the California State University system's annual report.

This glossy, four-color packet, complete with a CD-ROM, can only be described as gorgeous. A true masterpiece.

It had better be, because it cost the CSU system $31,820 – not including staff hours.

At 3,500 units printed, that makes individual reports worth $9.09.

Of course the information in this report is of the utmost importance to the campuses, trustees, legislators and alumni associations to which it is sent. In fact, it is of such importance, these concerned people would probably read it if it was produced in a nice, newsletter format.

Suppose next year CSU drops the gloss, and one or more of the colors, and manages to cut the overall cost to about $10,000.

That leaves $20,000 floating around the system that would make really nice scholarships for students like Joe who are the ones filling the report with its most attractive feature: success stories.

Letters of Hope

A right to freedom of expression?

By PAUL FERRELL
HORNET STAFF WRITER

Shaik al-Jamri is a well-known religious scholar and writer in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia. He was detained after anti-government protests in 1996. He has yet to be charged or tried for a crime.

Hundreds of Bahrainis were arrested in January 1996 after demonstrating against the government's closure of a number of mosques where prominent Shi'a clerics had been calling for the restoration of the National Assembly.

Al-Jamri was an elected member of the Assembly before it was dissolved in 1975. He has never used nor advocated the use of violence. Amnesty International has declared him a prisoner of conscience.

The right of freedom of expression is guaranteed in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 19 of the declaration states: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."



The UN General Assembly approved the declaration on Dec. 19, 1948, making this year the document's 50th anniversary. Amnesty International initiated the UDHR 50 Campaign to promote awareness and observation of this document that has served as a cornerstone for the organization's operations.

For more information on the UDHR 50 Campaign and to see the entire declaration, visit the Amnesty International Web site (www.amnesty-usa.org/campaign.html). To help free al-Jamri, send a letter to the authorities in Bahrain. You can pick up more information and a sample letter at the Multi-Cultural Center and the Student Access Center in the Library.

Clifford Anderson, a professor in the CSUS philosophy department, heads up the local Amnesty International group and can be contacted at 484-3741.

Letter to the Editor

ACLU — The real problem?

I am a white person and I do not know any more about the Ku Klux Klan or the American Nazi Party than Sean King does (even though I have been referred to by ignorant people as a hate-monger.) But I do know the legal organization that got the Supreme Court's approval to allow these hate organizations to have public marches — the American Civil Liberties Union.

That's right, this organization claims to be on the side of non-whites and Jews, yet sees no contradiction whatsoever in having its lawyers defend hate groups. Anybody who claims to be an ethical person ought to do no business with the ACLU whatsoever since the group's political manipulations over common sense makes it the worst menace on this planet.

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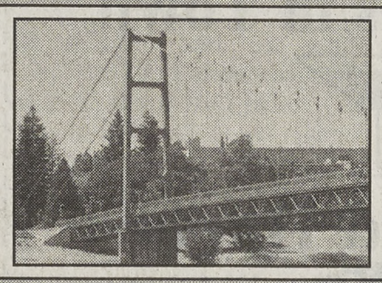
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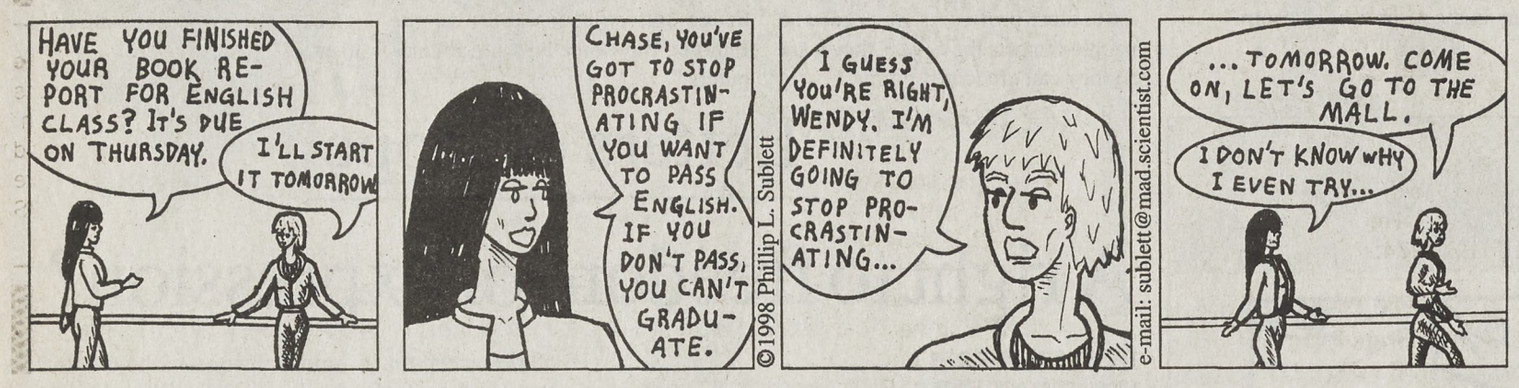
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by Brian Schaubmayer



The Days after tomorrow

by P.L. Sublett



National Comics

i need help



The Siamese Twins visit England.

STICKWORLD



"The more I buy, the more I'm saving him. Considerate huh?"

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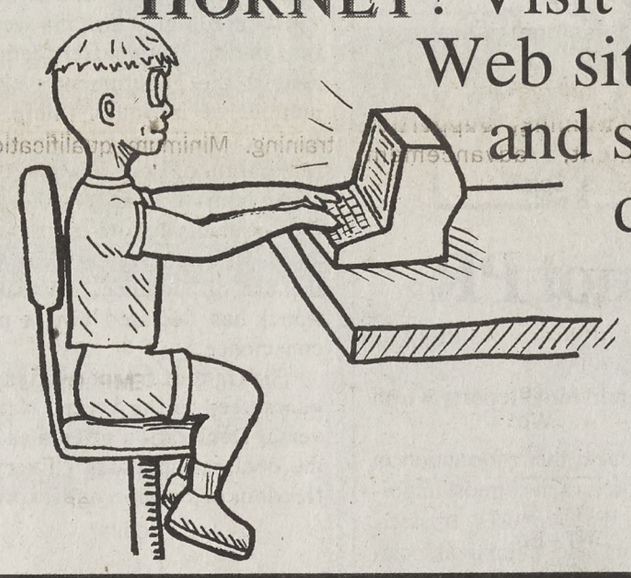
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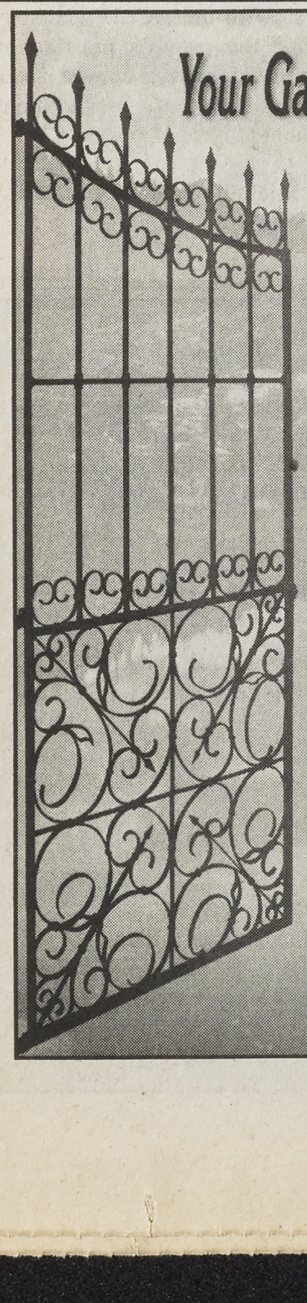
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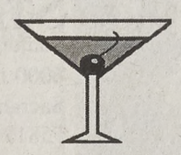
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Positions available through Office of Housing and Residential Life - Conference Services. Assist in the day-to-day operation of the Conference Housing Program. Desired skills include dedicated to customer service, effective communication and ability to work with a diversity group. Pick up application and job description in Sierra Hall.

- **Salary:** $6/hour, 35-40 hours/week and FREE residence hall accommodations during employment
- **Application Deadline:** March 27, 1998
- **Employment Dates:** Beginning May 26, 1998 and ending on or before August 14, 1998

Summer 1998
Facilities Assistant
Positions available through Office of Housing and Residential Life - Conference Services. Assist in the facilities operation of the Conference Housing Program. Experience in dealing with the public and or hotel/housekeeping helpful. Desired skills include initiative, dedicated to customer service and ability to work with a diverse group. Pick up application and job description in Sierra Hall.

- **Salary:** $6.50/hour, 35-40 hours/week and FREE residence hall accommodations during employment if desired
- **Application Deadline:** March 27, 1998
- **Employment Dates:** Beginning May 26, 1998 and ending on or before August 14, 1998

YMCA Spring and Summer Day Camp Counselors needed. Pay DOE call 737-3181 ext. 106 for more information.

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GPA: Only three CSUS fraternities raised grade point averages during 1997 spring semester

Continued from p.1

fall 1997 semester, has five members who are part of Order of Omega, according to Brandi Brown, president of the sorority.

Order of Omega consists of the top 5 percent of Greeks and is based on academic standing and extracurricular activity.

"Chi Delta has the highest percentage of people in Order of Omega at Sac State," said Brown. "We have a special committee (which consists of two elected members from the sorority) who checks our GPAs. The highest GPA gets a free bid to a formal at the end of the semester. It usually costs around $100," said Brown.

Punishment for the first offense of falling below the 2.0 mark is suspension from a social function. If a member remains below the mark for longer than a semester, her membership is revoked until the required GPA is met, according to Brown.

Of the 12 CSUS fraternities, only three raised their average GPAs from the spring to the fall semester in 1997. Lambda Chi Alpha went from a 2.3 to a 2.486.

Jeff Stelling, president of Chi Alpha, said that his fraternity requires a minimum 2.25 GPA. Anyone who falls below this mark is required to participate in two-hour study groups once a week, and have grade reports completed by their teachers for one semester.

"Personally, I feel that we've done better because people in the fraternity have been more concerned with their grades," said Stelling. "They know that school comes first and they are in college to graduate and get a degree."

At the other end of the scale, there were four fraternities — Kappa Sigma, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Delta Chi and Phi Delta Theta — that had GPAs below a 2.0, grounds for academic probation for individual students.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Delta Chi were below a 2.0 GPA in spring 1997 and fall 1997. The other two fraternities fell below the mark during the fall 1997 semester.

Despite these low averages, the fraternities are not required by CSUS to keep their grades up.

The only standard set by the university is for Greek members to be enrolled in at least 6.5 units. Greek officers must not fall below a 2.0 GPA or be on academic or social probation.

"There is not a minimum standard for overall Greek organizations' GPAs. They are just like any other student organization, none of which have grade standards," said Scott Siegel, program adviser for Greek affairs.

Siegel prints the grade reports using information from the Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council and CSUS Admissions and Records. The reports are used as an academic tool to help chapters respond to and meet the academic expectations of their national departments.

ROAD: Project is 'beautiful landing at wrong airport'

Continued from p.1

list," said Plotkin.

In fact, according to Plotkin, the road project was the only project completed.

Also instrumental in the decision to construct the road was the fact that both Department of Finance officials and the legislative analyst — whom Plotkin calls the government's "fiscal watchdogs" — signed off on the project.

And when both agencies sign off, said Plotkin, "you have to take the money and run."

Plotkin, who graduated from CSUS in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in business administration, described the project as a "beautiful landing at the wrong airport."

Opponents are trying "to stick their finger in Gerth's eye," he said. "In other words, get a life."

But Metcalf counters that if there are so many benefits to the construction of the road, why hasn't the project been showcased?

He cited the recent "hoopla" over the Founders' rose garden.

"Let's talk about how it's wisely using the tax payers' money."

University spokeswoman Ann Reed said she knew of no plans for a groundbreaking ceremony on the road.

To spread information on the project, Metcalf has designed his own Web site (www. csusroad.com).

"It's something I've paid for, but I think it's worth it," the professor said. "There is no (convenient) place for students or faculty to find out about this project on campus. They have to go to Facilities Management to look at blueprints."

Metcalf wants to halt construction of a plaza set for construction on the current site of the Science Building's loading dock.

Plotkin, however, said discussion on the topic is closed.

"Everything happens in phases as the money becomes available," he said. "Things happen when they're supposed to happen."

GREEKS: Members expelled for having bad GPAs

Continued from p.1

and started anew with only 10 members.

"The alumni board got permission to expel 20 brothers who were not making positive contributions, were not meeting the grade requirements and were participating in negative activity, like hazing," said John Jaquish, president of SigEp.

The mass expulsion occurred after the fraternity was reviewed by SigEp's national headquarters in spring 1996. Jaquish said that semester was the organization's breaking point.

The national headquarters, which monitors the 300 chapters of SigEp, put the CSUS chapter on notice to close after finding that members were not maintaining the minimum 2.5 GPA.

According to Mark Hodge, a SigEp member and former member of ASI, the chapter had only a 2.1 GPA during the spring 1996 semester.

"It was OK with the university, but headquarters is very strict," said Hodge. "We still had one of the top GPAs at CSUS. But that didn't matter because our headquarters is so strict."

Between the spring 1996 and spring 1997 semesters, a sense of apathy and discontent settled over the fraternity and membership fell from about 50 brothers to about 20, according to Jaquish.

Although the reformation was slow and difficult, the fraternity eventually pulled a 2.3 GPA during spring 1997 and from there it continued to climb the ladder of academic improvement.

To keep up the GPA, the fraternity requires that individual members, whether established or new, have a minimum 2.7 cumulative GPA in college. If applying right out of high school, members are required to have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

The organization also looks for future brothers who have been involved in athletics or in leadership positions.

Members can study at the fraternity house in a special study room with chairs, a table and a computer.

According to Jaquish, SigEp members follow strict rules to maintain the organization's GPA and must suffer penalties for falling below the minimum. The first time a member's GPA falls below a 2.7, he is put on probation. If it happens again, he is expelled and may not reapply until his GPA meets the minimum standards.

"If members are not getting the grades they're supposed to get, they need to worry about their grades and not the chapter," said Jaquish.

In exchange for meeting the requirements, members are offered a chance to blend in with a group with which they feel comfortable.

"This was the only fraternity I came to because, at the time, I knew that anywhere I went, it would be a bunch of guys I didn't know," said Brad Robinson, a criminal justice major. "This fraternity has made me a better person, scholastically as well as individually."

REPORT: CSU plans to enter it in national contest

Continued from p.1

"There is a lot of information that the legislature should know in here."

A brief financial summary is included, listing revenues, liabilities and expenditures for the 23-campus system. Most of the report, however, focuses on the history of CSU, and the evolution of the teaching programs at each university.

A timeline along the bottom of the pages cites dates that the universities opened, along with other historic moments such as "1898 — U.S. declares war on Spain over Cuba" and "1961 — first electric toothbrush appears."

Education programs at each campus are touted throughout the majority of the report, including CSUS' Academic Talent Search, a scholarship program for middle school students who can then take advanced summer courses at the university.

This is the second year a CD-ROM has been included in the annual report, a feature Reed says is very popular. The master copy of the CD-ROM was produced at Cal Poly, Pomona, Swisher said.

"People really like the CD and they use it," Reed said. "It's a striking publication."

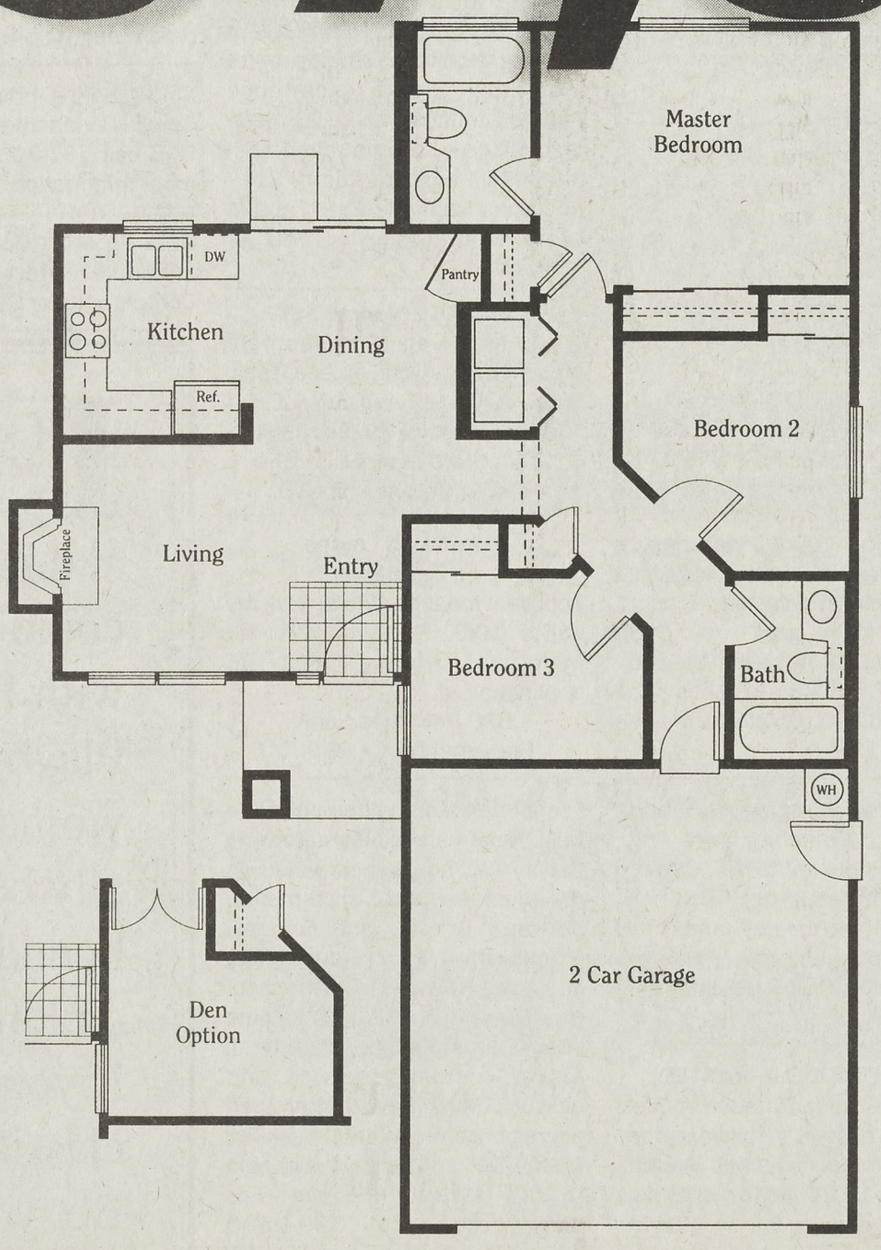
Swisher said this year's publication is one of the nicest-looking reports he has seen, adding that the office intends to submit it in contests for public relations programs.

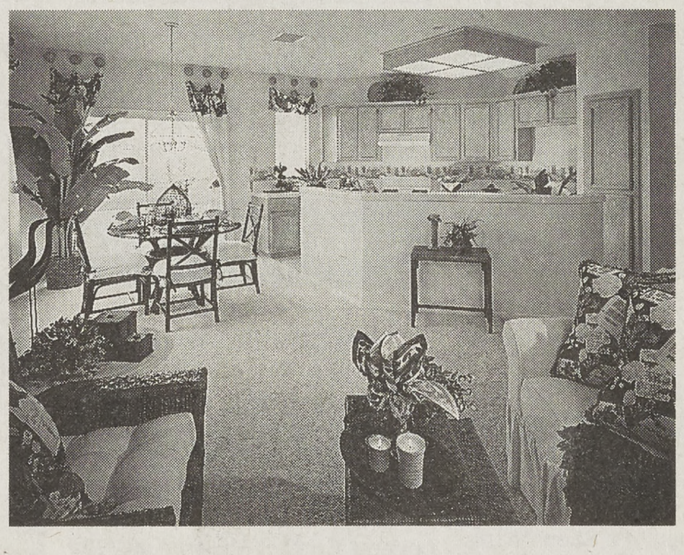
"These are national contests," he said. "This could be an award-winner."

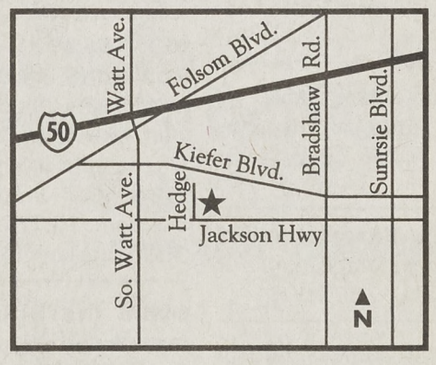
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